

Union Calendar No. 348

103D CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R. 4158**

[Report No. 103-642]

**A BILL**

To establish the Lower East Side Tenement  
Museum National Historic Site.

AUGUST 1, 1994

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee  
of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and or-  
dered to be printed

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 1994

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Natural Resources

AUGUST 1, 1994

Additional sponsors: Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. FILNER, Mr. MILLER of California, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. NADLER, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. WASHINGTON, Mr. McNULTY, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. LOWEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MANTON, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. BOEHLERT, and Mr. SOLOMON

AUGUST 1, 1994

Reported with amendments, committed to the Committee of the Whole House  
on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on March 24, 1994]

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## A BILL

To establish the Lower East Side Tenement Museum  
National Historic Site.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       *This Act may be cited as the “Lower East Side Tene-*  
5       *ment National Historic Site Act of 1994”.*

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       *As used in this Act:*

8               (1) *The term “historic site” means the Lower*  
9       *East Side Tenement National Historic Site estab-*  
10       *lished by section 4.*

11              (2) *The term “Museum” means the Lower East*  
12       *Side Tenement Museum, an education corporation*  
13       *chartered under the laws of the State of New York.*

14              (3) *The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of*  
15       *the Interior.*

16       **SEC. 3. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.**

17       (a) *FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—*

18              (1) *the Lower East Side Tenement at 97 Or-*  
19       *chard Street, New York, New York, is an outstanding*  
20       *survivor of the vast number of humble buildings in*  
21       *New York City that housed immigrants to the United*  
22       *States during the greatest wave of immigration in*  
23       *American history;*

1           (2) the Lower East Side Tenement is well suited  
2           to represent a profound social movement involving  
3           great numbers of unexceptional but courageous people;

4           (3) between 1880 and 1921, almost three-quar-  
5           ters of the immigrants to the United States entered  
6           the country through New York Harbor, most passed  
7           through immigration stations at Ellis Island and,  
8           earlier, Castle Clinton, both of which have been des-  
9           ignated as national monuments, and millions of these  
10          immigrants made their way to the Lower East Side  
11          of New York City;

12          (4) no other single identifiable neighborhood in  
13          the United States absorbed a comparable number of  
14          immigrants;

15          (5) the Museum is dedicated to interpreting im-  
16          migrant life on the Lower East Side and its impor-  
17          tance to United States history, and is located within  
18          a neighborhood long associated with the immigrant  
19          experience in America;

20          (6) the tenement building at 97 Orchard Street  
21          has been designated as a National Historic Land-  
22          mark, has been found to be historically significant,  
23          and possesses a historic fabric of exceptional integrity  
24          dating from the period of peak immigration to the  
25          United States; and

1           (7) *the National Park Service has found the*  
2           *Lower East Side Tenement to be nationally signifi-*  
3           *cant and to be best protected and interpreted through*  
4           *designation as an affiliated area of the National Park*  
5           *System while remaining under private ownership and*  
6           *management.*

7           (b) *PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—*

8                 (1) *to assure the preservation, maintenance, and*  
9                 *interpretation of the Lower East Side Tenement and*  
10                *to interpret, in the tenement and the surrounding*  
11                *neighborhood, the themes of early tenement life, the*  
12                *housing reform movement, and tenement architecture*  
13                *in the United States;*

14               (2) *to assure the continuation at this site of the*  
15                *Lower East Side Tenement, the preservation of which*  
16                *is necessary for the continued interpretation of the*  
17                *nationally significant immigrant phenomenon associ-*  
18                *ated with the Lower East Side of New York City and*  
19                *the role of the phenomenon in the history of immigra-*  
20                *tion to the United States; and*

21               (3) *to enhance the interpretation of the Castle*  
22                *Clinton National Monument and Ellis Island Na-*  
23                *tional Monument through cooperation with the Lower*  
24                *East Side Tenement National Historic Site.*

1 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF HISTORIC SITE.**

2 *In order to further the purposes of this Act and the*  
3 *Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16 U.S.C. 461 et*  
4 *seq.), the Lower East Side Tenement at 97 Orchard Street,*  
5 *New York, New York, is hereby designated as a national*  
6 *historic site.*

7 **SEC. 5. COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.**

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—In furtherance of the purposes of*  
9 *this Act and the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666; 16*  
10 *U.S.C. 461 et seq.), the Secretary may enter into a coopera-*  
11 *tive agreement with the Museum to effectuate the purposes*  
12 *of this Act.*

13 *(b) TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Any*  
14 *agreement entered into under subsection (a) may include*  
15 *provisions by which the Secretary will provide technical as-*  
16 *sistance to mark, restore, interpret, operate, and maintain*  
17 *the historic site. Such an agreement may also include provi-*  
18 *sions by which the Secretary will provide financial assist-*  
19 *ance to mark, interpret, and restore the historic site (in-*  
20 *cluding financial assistance for the making of preservation-*  
21 *related capital improvements and repairs, but not includ-*  
22 *ing financial assistance for other routine operations).*

23 *(c) ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS.—Any agreement entered*  
24 *into under subsection (a) shall contain provisions that—*

25 *(1) the Secretary, acting through the National*  
26 *Park Service, shall have the right of access at all rea-*

1        *sonable times to all public portions of the property*  
2        *covered by such agreement for the purpose of conduct-*  
3        *ing visitors through such property and interpreting*  
4        *the property to the public; and*

5                *(2) no changes or alterations may be made in*  
6        *property covered by the agreement except by mutual*  
7        *agreement between the Secretary and the other parties*  
8        *to the agreement entered into under subsection (a).*

9        **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

10        *The Museum shall, as a condition of the receipt of any*  
11        *assistance under this Act, provide to the Secretary and to*  
12        *the Congress an annual report documenting the activities*  
13        *and expenditures for which any such assistance was used*  
14        *during the fiscal year preceding the report.*

15        **SEC. 7. APPROPRIATIONS.**

16        *There is hereby authorized to be appropriated*  
17        *\$6,400,000 to carry out the purposes of this Act, such sums*  
18        *to remain available until expended.*

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to establish  
the Lower East Side Tenement National Historic Site.”.